(b) if so, the details of the proposed terminal including platforms, stabling lines, washing yard, approach roads, estimated cost and time frame of completion of the work;

(c) what progress has so far been made in this regard;

(d) whether it is a fact that the work has not been started, so far, despite budgetary allocation; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor and action taken to expedite the project ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BASANAGOUDA R. PATIL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The scope of works envisages construction of 3 platforms, 2 washing lines and 3 stabling lines alongwith other necessary service buildings and infrastructure. The estimated cost of the project is Rs. 85 crore and is targeted to be completed within 5 years subject to availability of funds.

(c) Detailed survey of the entire land has been conducted, master plan of terminal facilities developed and detailed estimate sanctioned. The tender for appointing architectural/design consultant for designing terminal facilities, station building and circulating area has been processed.

(d) No, Sir. The work was sanctioned in 2003-04 and necessary preliminary works of detailed survey, finalisation of scheme and sanction of detailed estimate completed.

(e) Does not arise.

Linking of Agartala-Dhaka-Kolkata by Rail

1981. SHRI MATILAL SARKAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways have any immediate plan to link Agartala-Dhaka-Kolkata by rail;

(b) if so, by when; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BASANAGOUDA R. PATIL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) At present, there is no such proposal under consideration.

Quota for locals in job

1982. SHRI SURENDRA LATH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the increasing demand for quota for "locals" in job in the Railways;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;

(c) the policy of the Government thereon; and

(d) the details there of?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BASANAGOUDA R. PATIL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) Direct recruitment to Group 'C' and 'D' posts on the Railways are made by selection through Railway Recruitment Boards. The vacancies are given wide publicity including publication in the Employment News etc. and all those who apply against such notifications are considered for recruitment on the Railways. This procedure is in conformity with the Constitutional provisions regarding equality in opportunity to all in the matter of employment under the Central and the guidelines issued by the Department of Personnel and Training (which is the nodal Department), pursuant to directives of Hon'ble Supreme Court.

Doubling of rail line in Gujarat

1983. SHRI BACHANI LEKHRAJ: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are contemplating to double the railway line in Gujarat;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BASANAGOUDA R. PATIL): (a) to (c) The work of 3rd line from